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Poverty and Age in Alabama

By E. P. Rutledge

As of April 1, 1980, there were 719,905 persons in Alabama below the level determined for escape from official poverty status. Those persons represented 18.9 percent of all Alabamians. Of those persons in poverty, 150,947 were also above the age of 60 years. They represented just at 21 percent of the total persons in poverty, although their age group accounted for only 15.5 percent of the persons for whom such poverty determination was made. Similarly, there were 241,333 persons below the age of 16 years in poverty. Combined, these two age groups comprised nearly 55 percent of the poverty group although their ages represent only 42 percent of all Alabamians.

This article will concentrate on presenting facts from the 1980 Census about the old (and those approaching that category) and poor in Alabama. We all face the prospects of age. We may be unaware that we also face the prospects of being poor as well. An all too obvious correlation between the two statuses exists. Let's take a look at some of the available data.

First of all, just what is poverty? Poverty is most of all a difficult condition to measure. In reality, a person's setting will greatly affect the amount of income needed to escape that onerous condition. In the past, a great deal of work was done to determine poverty thresholds. Research confirmed that a person in the rural South with access to a garden could escape poverty with less money income. The converse of a family in a New York ghetto needing much more money to escape poverty was also borne out. Unfortunately, the work needed to keep those thresholds updated proved too costly for the federal statistical establishment. For 1980, the Census Bureau used a much simplified structure. Table 1 shows the various amounts below which a family unit would be classed as in poverty. For comparison purposes, the median household income in Alabama for 1979 was $13,674.

Note that the highest income a family unit headed by a person aged 65 or older could have and still be classed as in poverty was $4,981 annually, or $415.00 per month. In fact, over half of these persons (52.8 percent) were in family units having income of less than $3,740 per year, or about $312.00 per month. (An additional 58,221 persons aged 60 and over were within about $150.00 per month of being included in the poverty group.) These income levels are hardly generous.

During the year prior to the census, 22,869 males aged 65 and over and 12,588 females aged 65 and over reported being employed. The bulk, as expected, were not in the labor force. This is also reflected in their income patterns. Table 2 presents the number of families and unrelated individuals where the householder is 60 years or older by poverty status. Notice the numbers of each which would have fallen into the poverty category were it not for Social Security type income.

Table 2. Poverty Status for Alabama and Receipt of Social Security Income in 1979 Persons & Households Aged 60 and Over

Income in 19[illegible]	Families	Unrelated Individuals
Below poverty level:		
With Social Security income	33,581	58,147
Without SS income	10,625	18,612
Between 100 & 124% of PL:		
With SS income:		
Below PL excl. SS income	17,785	17,855
Above PL excl. SS income	336	146
Without SS income	3,031	2,052
At or above 125% or PL:		
With SS income:		
Below PL excl. SS income	42,843	22,389
Above PL excl. SS income	84,754	23,217
Without SS income	47,819	14,187

Source: 1980 Census, Summary Tape File 4, Alabama

Consistently, the old and poor live primarily in nonfamily households, with the bulk of those living alone. There is, of course, a relationship between the pooling of income and poverty. Those just above poverty are more likely to be living in family units and the group 25 percent or more above the poverty level is even more likely to be living in a family unit.

What kind of housing do the old live in? Probably old housing. There were 81,593 units occupied by a householder aged 65 or over which had been occupied since 1949 or earlier. Similarly, 50,923 units had been occupied since between 1950 and 1959 which, combined with the older housing, represents over 45 percent of the housing for persons 65 and older. A possible plus for this group is that they overwhelmingly own their own housing.

(Continued on pg. 7)

Table 1. Poverty Level Thresholds in 1979 by Size of Family and Number of Related Children Under 18 Years Old

Size of family unit	Weighted average thresholds	Related children under 18 years							
		None	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8 or over
1 person (unrelated individual)	$ 3,686									
under 65 years	3,774	$ 3,774								
65 years and over	3,479	3,479								
2 persons	4,723									
householder under 65 years	4,876	4,898	$ 5,000							
householder 65 years and over	4,489	4,485	4,981							
3 persons	5,787	5,674	5,869	$ 5,944						
4 persons	7,412	7,482	7,605	7,596	$ 7,582					
5 persons	8,776	9,023	9,154	8,874	8,857	$ 8,525				
6 persons	9,915	10,378	10,419	10,205	9,999	9,693	$ 9,512			
7 persons	11,257	11,941	12,016	11,759	11,580	11,246	10,857	$10,429		
8 persons	12,484	13,356	13,475	13,251	13,018	12,717	12,384	11,936	$11,835	
9 or more persons	14,812	16,066	16,243	15,929	15,749	15,453	15,046	14,677	14,586	$14,024

Source: 1980 Census User's Guide

GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS FOR ALABAMA

Type of Activity	Annual		1983										1984		
	1982	1983	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
INDUSTRIAL															
Bituminous coal production (1,000 net tons)	25,869	23,071	1,914	2,017	1,907	1,759	1,667	2,004	1,937	2,150	2,044	1,839	2,181	2,434	2,518
Natural gas production (1,000,000 cu. ft.)	133,892	126,576	11,423	11,429	10,399	10,301	10,189	10,541	9,028	10,409	10,453	9,407	10,962	11,264	10,750
Cotton consumption (1,000 lbs.)	320,808	380,820	33,442	29,988	31,724	32,494	24,507	33,557	31,394	30,597	29,370	28,336	28,600	31,542	31,526
Crude oil and condensate production (1,000 barrels)	20,011	18,708	1,603	1,561	1,564	1,525	1,596	1,592	1,435	1,522	1,569	1,499	1,624	1,578	1,590
Electric energy consumption, industrial purposes (1,000,000 kwh)	21,431	21,020	1,621	1,702	1,753	1,797	1,756	1,963	1,892	1,818	1,799	1,698	1,827	1,958	1,919
Pulp, paper, and paperboard production (1,000 net tons)	5,419	6,166	517	506	556	554	561	505	511	559	510	479	532	526	580
CONSTRUCTION															
Building contracts awarded, new and alterations combined ($1,000)	2,011,200	2,762,900	251,100	226,900	269,800	327,100	160,400	219,900	242,200	278,600	291,000	211,000	228,400	159,700	244,600
Residential	847,200	1,292,900	103,500	113,100	109,900	125,700	100,500	101,300	162,200	138,100	97,300	96,000	98,300	82,200	125,100
Nonresidential	660,000	1,012,800	91,200	70,500	118,300	111,900	45,300	73,300	45,400	108,000	162,000	82,800	112,300	36,300	66,600
Public works and utilities	504,000	456,900	56,500	43,200	41,600	89,300	14,700	45,400	34,400	32,700	31,400	32,200	17,700	41,300	52,900
Cement consumption (1,000 net tons)	928	1,086	92	88	85	116	102	116	101	108	92	67	68	87	108
FINANCE															
Savings in savings and loan associations* ($1,000,000)	4,598	5,263	4,830	4,951	4,983	5,063	5,096	5,123	5,158	5,191	5,204	5,263	5,289	5,323	5,389
Tax collections ($1,000)															
Total	2,112,332	2,208,165	189,042	192,932	218,607	189,144	173,150	191,429	219,553	186,326	221,579	154,139	205,929	202,747	264,652
Franchise	52,016	52,214	15,688	7,306	1,145	2,777	7,524	2,253	7,300	4,430	1,980	507	302	1,153	28,642
Gasoline (excl. aviation)	197,894	199,587	14,001	17,681	16,303	17,158	17,252	17,182	17,874	16,536	16,469	16,043	18,417	16,305	15,305
Income	765,160	815,838	76,745	49,511	108,834	80,633	36,785	81,341	81,667	38,160	83,559	53,073	49,125	95,328	130,393
Motor fuels	41,505	45,027	3,049	3,763	3,901	3,136	3,206	4,195	3,383	4,189	5,673	3,906	3,415	4,409	3,448
Oil gas privilege	36,891	89,645	4,871	5,691	6,447	6,193	5,131	5,298	5,168	5,106	34,115	4,424	5,742	5,924	5,475
Oil gas production	18,510	17,290	1,808	1,362	1,823	1,541	1,319	1,319	1,331	1,314	1,339	1,146	1,465	1,565	1,442
Sales	562,208	609,132	44,491	48,128	52,546	52,347	51,650	52,961	51,526	51,888	53,500	49,930	67,569	49,655	50,142
2.2% Gross receipts	44,104	46,185	147	10,636	110	48	10,738	61	3,548	10,134	63	6	13,504	152	9
TVA electric	35,999	31,290	2,831	5,661	2,831	2,831	2,831	2,831	2,911	2,867		2,867	5,734		2,867
Tobacco	70,885	68,915	4,881	5,411	5,599	6,536	6,035	5,426	5,906	6,030	5,444	6,081	5,485	4,985	5,418
Use	67,876	66,519	960	14,062	1,239	816	14,707	1,097	643	15,021	1,389	459	16,067	1,975	1,045
Utility	134,597	152,287	13,717	12,152	11,461	10,751	10,617	11,747	12,838	22,053	11,324	11,079	14,760	15,900	13,171
PRICES															
Consumer Price Index (U.S.) (1967 = 100)															
All items	288.8	298.4	293.4	295.5	297.1	298.1	299.3	300.3	301.8	302.6	303.1	303.5	305.2	306.6	307.3
Food	285.7	291.7	290.5	291.9	293.4	292.0	292.0	292.2	292.6	292.9	292.5	293.9	294.4	302.1	302.2
Housing	314.7	323.1	318.6	320.3	321.8	323.1	324.5	324.8	326.4	326.8	327.0	327.4	329.2	331.0	331.5
Fuel and utilities	350.8	370.3	363.8	363.6	369.1	373.6	376.5	375.1	376.4	374.4	371.3	370.6	376.0	383.0	380.1
Apparel and upkeep	191.8	196.5	194.5	195.5	196.1	196.6	196.0	197.3	200.4	200.7	200.7	199.3	196.4	196.2	198.8
Transportation	291.5	298.4	287.4	292.3	296.2	298.3	300.4	302.4	304.7	305.0	305.4	306.3	306.0	305.8	306.9
Medical care	328.7	357.3	352.3	353.5	354.4	355.4	357.7	360.3	361.2	362.9	364.9	366.2	369.5	373.2	374.6
Energy	416.0	419.3	399.9	410.0	421.1	427.1	430.1	429.8	429.3	425.1	419.9	418.0	416.7	420.2	418.1
Producer Price Index (U.S.) (1967 = 100)															
All commodities	299.3	303.0	300.6	300.6	301.5	302.4	303.2	304.7	305.3	306.0	305.5	306.0	308.1	308.8	311.1
Industrial commodities	312.3	315.7	313.5	312.1	313.6	314.3	316.5	317.3	317.1	318.5	318.3	318.4	319.2	320.4	321.9
Index of prices received by Alabama farmers (1977 = 100)	115.8	122.3	117.0	117.0	120.0	119.0	122.0	126.0	126.0	124.0	131.0	133.0	140.0	138.0	136.0
Purchasing power of the dollar, U.S. (1967 = $1.000) As measured by															
Consumer prices	346	335	341	338	337	335	334	333	331	330	330	329	328	326	325
Wholesale prices	334	330	333	333	332	331	330	328	328	327	327	327	325	324	321
LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT															
Civilian labor force (1,000 workers)	1,713.0	1,744.8	1,739.8	1,732.7	1,729.4	1,732.2	1,758.3	1,746.2	1,745.3	1,774.6	1,774.9	1,732.8	1,754.8	1,759.6	1,765.8
Unemployment	247.0	235.1	261.9	236.6	225.0	222.2	232.0	214.3	214.5	220.7	223.1	197.0	238.4	227.9	218.0
Unemployment rate	14.4	13.5	15.1	13.7	13.0	12.8	13.2	12.3	12.3	12.4	12.6	11.4	13.6	13.0	12.3
Employment	1,466.0	1,509.7	1,477.9	1,496.1	1,504.4	1,510.0	1,526.3	1,531.9	1,530.8	1,553.9	1,551.8	1,535.8	1,516.4	1,531.7	1,547.8
Nonagricultural	1,312.5	1,318.4	1,294.4	1,312.4	1,320.9	1,331.6	1,332.0	1,323.7	1,326.5	1,334.8	1,336.6	1,338.8	1,324.4	1,330.2	1,333.0
Manufacturing	337.8	338.2	329.7	334.5	337.8	340.9	337.4	344.8	345.5	346.0	346.3	345.6	344.6	345.2	346.6
Durable goods	159.1	157.6	153.4	156.1	157.3	157.6	157.9	160.9	161.1	161.9	162.6	162.2	161.9	162.9	165.4
Lumber and wood products	25.1	27.6	26.3	27.0	27.7	28.5	28.5	28.6	28.7	28.6	28.4	28.3	27.8	28.2	28.8
Stone, clay, glass products	8.6	8.7	8.5	8.8	8.8	8.9	8.9	9.0	9.0	8.9	8.7	8.6	8.6	8.7	8.8
Primary metals	29.6	24.8	24.8	25.1	25.0	24.7	24.3	24.9	24.5	24.6	24.6	24.8	25.2	25.2	26.2
Blast furn. and steel works	8.8	5.7	5.6	5.8	6.0	6.1	5.5	5.7	5.2	5.3	5.5	6.1	6.6	7.1	7.7
Iron and steel foundries	11.4	10.5	10.3	10.6	10.3	10.3	10.4	10.7	10.7	10.7	10.5	9.9	10.0	9.6	10.0
Fabricated metals	22.8	21.7	21.3	21.4	21.5	21.4	21.7	21.9	22.0	22.2	22.4	22.4	22.0	22.2	22.2
Machinery (excl. electrical)		17.6	14.3	14.6	14.7	15.0	14.9	15.1	15.1	15.2	15.1	15.3	15.4	15.6	15.9
Electrical, electronic equip.		25.5	20.5	20.8	21.2	21.5	21.7	21.9	22.0	22.0	22.3	22.3	22.5	22.9	22.9
Transportation	22.6	21.5	21.6	21.4	21.2	19.9	20.2	21.6	22.0	22.6	22.7	22.4	22.5	22.6	22.9
Other durable goods	16.0	17.2	16.1	17.0	17.2	17.7	17.7	17.7	17.8	17.9	18.2	18.1	17.9	17.5	17.7
Nondurable goods	178.8	180.6	176.3	178.4	180.5	183.3	179.5	183.9	184.4	184.1	183.7	183.4	182.7	182.3	181.2
Food	26.5	26.9	26.3	26.5	26.8	27.2	27.3	27.4	27.4	27.5	27.2	27.1	26.9	26.5	26.5
Textile mill products	38.8	39.1	37.8	38.7	38.8	39.6	37.6	39.6	40.2	40.3	40.3	40.4	40.4	40.3	40.4
Apparel	53.0	54.3	52.5	53.0	54.4	55.6	53.8	55.4	56.0	55.6	55.4	55.1	54.4	54.7	53.6
Paper and allied products	21.0	21.4	21.1	21.2	21.4	21.8	21.9	22.1	21.5	21.4	21.4	21.3	21.3	21.1	20.8
Printing and publishing	10.2	10.3	10.3	10.3	10.4	10.4	10.4	10.4	10.3	10.3	10.3	10.5	10.6	10.6	10.6
Chemicals and allied products	13.1	11.8	11.9	11.8	11.8	11.8	11.5	11.8	11.8	11.9	11.8	11.8	11.9	11.8	11.9
Rubber products	13.8	14.6	14.3	14.8	14.7	14.7	14.8	15.0	15.0	15.0	15.1	15.1	15.1	15.2	15.3
Other nondurable goods	2.4	2.2	2.1	2.1	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1
Nonmanufacturing	974.7	980.1	964.7	977.9	983.1	990.7	994.6	978.9	981.0	988.8	990.3	993.2	979.8	985.0	986.4
Mining and quarrying	16.2	13.6	13.5	13.6	13.4	13.6	13.7	13.6	12.9	13.3	13.6	13.5	13.1	13.8	13.7
Bituminous coal mining	12.1	10.3	10.3	10.2	10.2	10.3	10.5	10.4	9.7	10.1	10.4	9.6	9.1	9.8	9.6
Contract construction	56.8	59.4	54.2	57.7	59.3	61.6	62.0	62.6	62.7	62.6	63.0	62.4	60.1	60.7	60.4
Trans., comm., and utilities	71.1	69.7	68.8	69.4	70.1	70.9	70.7	64.6	70.7	71.1	70.9	71.1	70.6	71.3	71.6
Trade	267.4	271.0	262.9	267.5	269.3	272.5	272.7	273.0	273.7	275.5	278.0	282.1	273.9	272.9	274.1
Wholesale	70.0	69.7	68.5	69.0	69.2	70.3	70.2	70.3	70.4	70.6	70.8	70.7	70.8	71.3	71.3
Retail	197.4	201.3	194.4	198.5	200.1	202.2	202.5	202.7	203.3	204.9	207.2	211.4	203.1	201.7	202.8
Finance, insurance, real estate	58.8	59.4	58.9	59.1	59.3	60.1	60.3	60.2	59.8	59.6	59.6	59.6	59.8	60.0	60.3
Service and miscellaneous	214.4	217.8	215.3	218.6	218.0	219.8	219.8	219.8	219.7	219.6	218.6	218.3	216.3	218.3	219.2
Government	290.1	289.2	291.1	292.0	293.7	292.2	295.4	285.1	281.5	286.9	286.6	286.2	286.0	288.0	287.1
Federal	65.1	64.6	64.4	64.2	64.5	65.4	65.5	65.4	64.9	64.1	64.1	64.0	63.9	63.7	63.6
State and local	224.9	224.6	226.7	227.8	229.2	226.8	229.9	219.7	216.6	222.8	222.5	222.2	222.1	224.3	223.5

GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS FOR ALABAMA—CONTINUED

Type of Activity	Annual		1983										1984		
	1982	1983	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT—CONT															
Other employment activity:															
State Employment Service *(number)*															
Job applications	176,752	207,309	19,927	18,139	18,496	21,578	20,987	19,505	17,884	14,485	14,784	11,998	17,939	16,014	16,084
Nonagricultural placements	66,900	91,160	6,039	7,233	6,942	10,753	10,126	10,484	7,499	7,117	6,071	5,114	6,741	6,509	6,471
Unemployment compensation:															
Initial benefit claims *(number)*	632,290	428,181	36,556	30,468	26,892	25,293	49,017	29,803	24,506	27,873	28,728	35,738	75,004	29,677	28,176
Payments *($1,000)*	233,984	191,868	21,604	16,669	14,783	14,871	13,217	16,186	13,556	11,656	12,540	13,499	18,452	16,901	15,566
County data (civilian labor force and unemployment rate):															
Autauga	15,080	15,780	15,830	16,130	15,890	15,930	15,770	15,590	15,610	15,710	15,680	15,460	15,530	16,420	15,460
	15.0	14.1	17.0	16.9	13.9	13.5	12.6	11.5	11.8	11.6	11.7	10.5	12.7	11.3	10.5
Baldwin	33,390	33,830	33,340	33,650	34,000	34,400	34,910	34,040	33,640	33,970	33,950	33,760	34,310	34,670	34,600
	12.1	12.3	12.5	12.4	12.4	11.4	12.6	11.3	11.3	11.0	11.3	11.8	14.0	13.7	12.6
Barbour	11,510	11,980	11,860	12,110	12,250	12,160	12,320	12,130	12,040	12,040	11,800	11,620	11,610	11,660	11,580
	16.2	13.1	15.4	14.3	12.7	12.7	13.3	12.8	11.1	10.9	10.9	10.8	13.0	12.2	10.2
Bibb	5,670	5,940	6,050	6,030	6,100	6,250	6,180	5,620	5,820	5,770	5,770	5,690	6,040	5,790	5,900
	22.8	19.6	24.3	21.2	19.0	17.6	17.2	16.2	17.9	15.0	15.4	18.0	25.1	20.0	19.6
Blount	14,050	13,520	13,540	13,770	13,960	13,800	13,680	13,440	13,510	13,730	13,130	12,890	12,870	13,020	13,200
	19.9	18.1	20.6	19.3	18.8	18.7	19.1	16.0	15.2	14.2	14.7	14.0	17.1	16.8	21.0
Bullock	4,480	4,530	4,310	4,370	4,510	4,590	4,690	4,720	4,770	4,820	4,660	4,410	4,230	4,250	4,240
	18.3	17.2	18.8	16.2	15.5	17.7	20.1	18.4	16.0	14.3	14.9	15.2	16.1	14.1	13.3
Butler	9,460	9,900	9,970	9,770	9,920	9,820	10,020	9,900	9,910	10,250	9,940	9,720	9,900	9,770	9,810
	20.3	17.2	22.2	18.4	17.8	16.2	17.9	15.9	14.0	15.2	13.3	12.0	16.7	15.5	16.1
Calhoun	45,620	46,560	46,430	46,160	46,800	47,050	47,340	46,810	46,350	46,850	46,310	46,526	47,170	47,220	47,470
	16.1	13.1	15.1	13.6	14.3	13.7	13.2	12.0	10.9	11.5	10.8	11.3	12.9	12.2	11.7
Chambers	16,280	16,920	16,570	16,780	16,940	17,290	17,460	17,230	16,790	17,070	16,880	16,760	16,760	16,850	16,950
	11.3	9.8	10.4	9.7	9.6	10.1	11.2	9.7	7.8	8.7	8.3	7.8	8.8	9.3	8.8
Cherokee	11,390	11,400	11,290	11,730	11,960	11,580	11,120	10,910	11,600	11,770	11,430	10,860	11,090	11,110	11,120
	14.8	15.4	22.5	15.0	12.6	12.9	13.4	12.4	9.7	13.4	10.2	11.1	14.5	13.4	27.8
Chilton	13,450	13,420	14,990	15,500	15,780	15,420	15,600	15,650	15,680	15,820	15,640	15,360	15,490	15,540	15,650
	15.6	13.3	16.0	14.5	14.0	12.6	12.0	11.5	10.9	10.3	10.7	10.5	12.7	11.7	11.7
Choctaw	5,280	5,560	5,500	5,650	5,730	5,490	5,630	5,570	5,430	5,510	5,440	5,500	5,610	5,650	5,660
	15.3	15.2	14.7	14.6	16.8	16.1	19.0	14.7	12.9	12.6	11.4	12.8	16.2	16.1	15.9
Clarke	10,450	10,810	10,950	10,800	10,840	11,240	11,090	10,800	10,580	10,620	10,580	10,660	10,870	10,680	10,780
	15.9	16.2	19.8	16.9	16.8	18.1	17.0	14.6	11.4	13.2	10.8	11.8	16.9	14.4	13.8
Clay	7,400	7,520	7,470	7,450	7,540	7,370	7,720	7,470	7,590	7,690	7,670	7,510	7,650	7,670	7,840
	13.5	13.8	14.1	13.4	15.8	15.2	17.4	12.9	11.8	11.3	11.3	10.7	12.3	11.8	10.8
Cleburne	5,080	5,210	5,220	5,240	5,290	5,190	5,180	5,050	5,290	5,280	5,190	5,160	5,090	5,100	5,130
	14.5	12.5	14.5	16.4	13.3	13.3	11.0	9.6	10.0	9.6	9.7	9.7	11.2	10.9	10.8
Coffee	19,410	20,040	19,710	20,070	20,370	20,190	20,360	20,320	20,440	20,340	20,020	19,700	19,430	20,030	20,030
	11.8	10.8	13.3	11.5	11.1	10.1	10.7	9.8	8.8	8.5	8.9	9.6	10.2	10.5	9.8
Colbert	23,620	24,050	24,440	24,520	24,390	24,270	24,440	24,040	23,600	23,710	23,500	23,520	23,760	24,310	24,140
	19.0	18.5	22.1	20.6	18.7	17.8	18.6	17.4	16.4	15.8	15.3	15.5	19.0	20.1	18.3
Conecuh	6,820	7,010	7,050	7,060	7,000	7,060	7,090	7,040	7,100	7,060	6,970	7,120	7,060	7,010	7,130
	13.9	12.7	14.4	13.8	12.9	12.3	12.3	11.1	12.6	11.7	12.3	13.7	13.7	14.1	12.6
Coosa	5,630	5,570	5,590	5,600	5,680	5,460	5,610	5,480	5,590	5,610	5,600	5,520	5,510	5,520	5,460
	10.8	10.3	11.6	11.4	11.7	10.6	11.6	9.5	8.1	7.7	8.2	7.8	9.0	8.8	7.8
Covington	15,630	16,326	15,970	16,370	16,600	16,530	16,710	16,690	16,590	16,580	16,500	16,160	16,280	16,570	16,360
	13.5	12.3	13.5	12.3	11.4	10.7	14.9	12.3	10.9	10.3	11.1	11.3	12.8	13.4	11.6
Crenshaw	6,830	7,220	7,060	7,210	7,460	7,410	7,790	7,340	7,570	7,640	7,250	6,820	6,750	6,810	6,920
	13.8	12.1	13.2	11.8	10.9	11.4	24.3	10.8	9.9	8.6	8.3	8.5	12.5	11.9	12.7
Cullman	27,400	28,710	28,120	29,070	29,370	28,960	29,190	28,570	29,050	29,480	28,830	28,050	28,430	28,700	29,070
	17.2	14.7	17.8	15.9	14.9	14.1	14.4	12.8	11.9	11.1	10.9	10.7	14.2	14.6	12.9
Dale	12,410	12,980	13,010	13,080	13,270	13,040	13,210	12,950	12,760	13,110	12,890	12,630	12,760	12,780	12,980
	13.1	13.7	15.5	14.9	13.8	13.4	14.2	12.6	11.6	11.8	12.1	11.5	12.8	13.3	13.7
Dallas	23,870	23,640	23,490	23,450	23,860	24,310	24,420	23,830	23,440	23,540	23,370	22,910	23,090	23,400	23,260
	17.3	17.5	19.9	17.7	17.8	17.2	18.0	16.3	15.5	15.2	15.3	14.7	17.0	16.6	15.6
DeKalb	28,460	29,950	29,400	30,060	30,370	30,700	31,260	30,580	30,100	30,200	29,530	28,890	29,440	29,310	29,680
	13.4	13.4	15.4	14.7	13.4	13.4	14.7	12.0	12.1	13.0	12.3	11.6	14.5	12.7	12.0
Elmore	19,880	20,770	20,720	21,010	21,350	21,460	21,150	21,020	20,680	20,780	20,570	20,250	20,170	20,220	20,390
	13.3	12.2	14.7	13.8	13.8	13.6	12.3	11.7	10.4	10.1	9.5	8.4	9.6	9.1	8.8
Escambia	16,470	17,430	16,930	17,610	17,770	17,810	17,890	17,360	17,340	17,350	17,410	17,440	17,560	17,610	17,420
	13.2	12.6	12.4	13.0	13.2	12.8	13.7	12.4	11.3	11.3	12.1	12.6	14.3	13.5	11.8
Etowah	42,720	42,450	43,520	42,660	43,010	42,520	42,830	42,350	41,440	41,890	41,720	41,370	41,660	41,700	41,500
	20.5	17.5	22.3	18.8	17.2	16.6	17.0	15.3	14.0	14.0	14.2	13.5	15.8	15.3	14.3
Fayette	9,830	10,170	9,970	10,110	10,210	10,260	10,200	10,100	10,330	10,450	10,310	10,160	10,160	10,170	10,340
	11.4	11.7	14.6	13.9	11.6	10.5	11.7	10.9	10.7	9.6	9.4	9.7	10.5	9.7	9.9
Franklin	13,310	14,200	13,850	14,040	14,190	14,190	15,010	14,530	14,500	14,440	14,320	14,010	15,060	15,190	15,390
	18.4	18.2	19.8	17.4	15.3	16.2	24.4	15.9	15.9	15.5	16.6	16.5	25.7	23.0	22.1
Geneva	10,800	11,400	10,990	11,250	11,690	11,740	11,680	11,450	11,570	11,950	11,600	11,470	11,330	11,320	11,430
	11.4	10.5	12.4	10.9	11.1	9.8	10.9	9.9	8.5	8.3	8.3	9.4	10.2	9.4	8.9
Greene	4,560	4,610	5,000	4,650	4,640	4,630	4,610	4,510	4,560	4,590	4,490	4,420	4,610	4,700	4,640
	17.0	16.7	22.9	18.0	16.0	15.6	15.3	14.1	13.3	12.7	13.5	15.4	21.5	21.4	17.7
Hale	4,980	5,310	5,180	5,330	5,410	5,300	5,550	5,260	5,360	5,460	5,340	5,270	5,380	5,310	5,310
	20.7	16.6	18.0	16.0	15.3	15.1	19.3	13.5	13.0	12.8	14.8	18.2	22.6	19.6	17.9
Henry	7,010	7,260	6,990	7,300	7,590	7,330	7,360	7,260	7,480	7,670	7,410	7,140	7,020	7,100	7,050
	12.2	11.2	12.6	11.6	11.7	11.9	12.5	10.7	10.0	9.1	9.3	9.4	11.5	10.2	8.6
Houston	39,040	40,070	39,460	39,820	40,670	40,540	41,010	40,360	40,720	41,050	40,160	39,630	39,610	39,840	40,080
	10.0	10.8	12.1	11.2	11.4	11.0	12.4	10.5	10.0	9.7	9.4	9.2	10.4	9.4	8.9
Jackson	21,080	20,800	21,160	21,010	20,830	20,990	21,480	20,280	20,690	20,980	20,320	19,980	19,810	19,930	19,660
	20.4	22.0	25.0	23.0	20.8	21.9	23.6	17.6	18.9	19.5	19.0	20.7	22.0	21.8	19.3
Jefferson	306,120	310,270	312,200	312,800	313,250	313,520	315,270	310,460	308,350	307,640	305,340	303,270	306,020	305,750	308,780
	13.8	12.8	14.9	13.5	13.0	12.7	12.5	11.8	11.6	10.8	10.7	10.1	11.6	10.7	10.9
Lamar	8,330	8,820	8,780	9,060	9,120	8,910	8,880	8,670	8,780	8,960	8,900	8,730	8,830	8,940	8,980
	13.5	9.8	11.1	11.1	10.4	11.0	9.9	8.7	8.2	7.9	8.4	7.3	8.9	8.2	7.5
Lauderdale	34,260	34,810	34,790	34,950	35,060	35,480	35,810	34,840	34,370	34,610	34,220	34,350	34,800	35,380	35,280
	17.5	16.9	19.1	17.7	16.4	17.0	17.7	15.8	15.2	14.8	14.0	14.5	18.3	18.8	17.4
Lawrence	14,410	14,490	14,970	15,040	14,950	14,760	14,840	14,140	13,910	13,990	13,680	13,380	13,650	13,720	13,660
	18.9	18.7	21.3	18.5	18.0	18.2	18.1	16.8	16.2	15.7	16.0	16.9	19.1	18.9	16.8
Lee	34,330	36,140	35,210	36,070	36,600	37,020	36,280	36,600	36,370	37,120	36,770	35,890	36,440	36,770	36,650
	9.4	8.4	8.5	8.3	8.1	9.0	8.7	8.0	7.2	6.9	6.5	6.0	7.3	7.2	5.4
Limestone	22,840	23,940	23,800	24,010	24,200	23,910	23,890	24,030	24,200	24,180	24,040	23,780	24,290	24,430	24,300
	13.6	11.0	14.1	12.8	11.7	9.7	9.2	8.9	9.0	8.6	9.0	8.5	11.2	11.1	9.7
Lowndes	4,960	5,320	5,340	5,250	5,350	5,290	5,370	5,400	5,490	5,560	5,420	5,290	5,260	5,270	5,180
	19.2	17.6	20.5	19.0	17.4	18.3	18.7	18.1	16.0	16.0	14.0	14.3	19.3	18.3	17.7
Macon	7,820	8,000	7,930	8,030	8,050	8,160	8,120	8,160	8,030	8,090	7,800	7,760	7,810	7,810	7,780
	14.9	13.5	14.0	13.1	13.7	16.4	15.2	14.6	11.4	11.2	11.1	11.4	12.7	11.9	10.6
Madison	94,570	100,410	97,760	98,650	100,760	102,320	101,810	102,590	102,490	103,030	102,090	100,970	102,220	102,160	104,170
	10.7	9.2	10.5	9.2	9.2	9.6	8.8	8.6	8.0	8.1	8.2	7.7	9.7	9.0	9.8
Marengo	9,690	9,920	10,270	9,820	9,820	9,950	10,210	9,840	9,790	9,860	9,790	9,640	9,860	9,800	9,970
	15.4	15.4	18.2	17.8	16.5	16.7	17.1	13.4	12.2	11.7	12.1	12.9	15.0	14.2	15.0
Marion	13,300	13,760	13,880	13,810	13,970	14,010	14,320	13,810	13,490	13,500	13,580	13,250	13,550	13,490	13,490
	18.3	19.4	22.0	21.4	20.5	20.3	20.5	17.4	16.2	16.1	17.7	15.6	18.6	17.6	16.4
Marshall	33,020	34,920	34,210	34,450	34,720	35,290	37,360	35,030	35,200	35,260	35,020	34,960	35,930	36,000	35,470
	14.8	13.0	14.8	13.3	12.2	12.7	17.2	10.9	10.8	10.6	10.9	11.2	14.4	14.0	11.8
Mobile	158,750	163,820	161,700	165,920	166,170	169,130	169,240	167,360	163,240	163,950	161,260	158,890	163,040	163,710	164,260
	14.0	15.9	17.1	17.4	16.7	16.3	16.2	16.2	15.1	14.3	13.3	12.9	15.9	15.1	14.5

GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS FOR ALABAMA—CONTINUED

Type of Activity	Annual		1983									1984		
	1982	1983	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT—CONT.															
County data (civilian labor force and unemployment rate)—continued															
Monroe	10,360	10,170	10,540	10,630	11,020	10,890	10,920	10,860	10,820	10,850	10,980	10,900	10,940	10,950	10,900
	14.2	12.6	13.0	11.8	13.7	12.3	12.2	11.4	10.9	11.7	12.6	12.4	15.6	14.9	13.4
Montgomery	88,290	92,640	90,920	91,960	93,050	94,690	94,460	93,700	93,230	94,230	93,970	92,810	92,730	93,180	93,460
	11.1	10.6	11.8	10.6	10.2	11.1	10.8	10.0	9.8	10.0	10.0	9.3	10.7	10.6	9.6
Morgan	37,400	37,990	37,860	37,990	38,520	38,770	38,810	38,190	37,970	37,960	37,520	37,080	37,630	37,490	37,810
	16.1	14.8	16.2	15.2	14.8	14.3	14.4	13.6	13.0	12.8	12.4	11.9	14.5	13.6	13.7
Perry	5,690	5,660	5,720	5,810	5,960	6,050	6,010	5,940	5,910	5,950	5,870	5,780	5,840	5,690	5,660
	15.1	14.8	14.8	13.5	14.2	14.5	14.2	13.6	11.6	11.2	15.7	19.2	22.4	15.1	12.1
Pickens	7,550	7,630	7,670	7,650	7,830	7,720	7,790	7,620	7,590	7,650	7,510	7,600	7,500	7,540	7,490
	16.1	17.1	20.1	22.5	21.5	20.3	17.9	16.7	14.1	14.2	13.3	16.3	17.9	17.3	15.8
Pike	13,240	13,770	13,620	13,950	14,310	13,780	13,990	13,660	13,710	14,370	13,890	12,960	13,360	13,420	13,590
	13.4	13.0	16.2	13.4	13.5	14.0	14.8	13.3	11.9	10.6	10.8	11.9	12.0	11.8	12.0
Randolph	9,710	9,170	8,960	9,140	9,270	9,030	9,730	9,040	8,880	9,310	9,050	8,950	8,890	8,830	8,780
	21.7	17.6	15.1	17.9	16.6	17.3	24.5	16.4	12.7	12.1	12.7	13.8	18.0	16.2	15.9
Russell	17,990	18,120	18,410	18,190	18,380	18,490	18,540	18,610	18,090	18,230	18,190	18,210	19,480	18,890	18,560
	16.7	13.7	16.3	14.6	14.4	13.1	12.8	11.5	11.7	11.6	11.2	11.5	17.9	14.3	12.1
St. Clair	18,980	19,350	19,740	19,690	19,600	19,320	19,240	19,000	19,060	19,070	19,100	19,280	19,310	19,470	19,030
	14.5	14.2	17.5	16.7	14.6	13.1	12.0	11.6	12.4	11.7	12.4	13.2	14.0	13.9	11.3
Shelby	29,040	30,510	30,480	30,480	31,080	30,670	30,930	30,580	30,380	30,570	30,230	30,220	30,890	30,660	30,300
	13.6	12.4	14.0	12.3	13.4	11.9	11.9	11.6	11.4	11.4	10.9	10.9	13.6	12.1	10.3
Sumter	6,810	6,990	6,890	7,060	7,050	7,170	7,250	7,120	6,900	7,100	7,110	6,850	7,060	7,040	7,170
	17.2	14.3	17.4	15.7	13.6	16.2	16.7	13.7	10.6	11.1	11.8	9.9	12.2	11.1	12.0
Talladega	33,840	32,090	33,880	33,840	32,370	32,270	32,590	32,380	32,240	32,440	31,670	31,300	31,730	31,670	31,920
	19.2	17.1	20.3	17.9	18.0	17.6	17.4	16.2	14.8	14.2	13.5	13.0	15.6	14.6	14.7
Tallapoosa	16,900	16,580	16,430	16,220	16,460	16,910	17,090	16,780	16,510	16,660	16,560	16,620	16,850	16,970	17,080
	14.5	12.2	14.4	11.5	12.6	12.5	11.7	12.0	9.8	10.3	9.6	9.9	10.6	10.2	9.8
Tuscaloosa	54,430	56,520	56,270	56,920	57,270	56,620	56,810	56,210	55,900	56,800	56,540	56,400	56,910	57,500	58,020
	12.6	10.5	14.0	12.6	13.4	13.1	12.8	12.1	10.4	10.9	10.5	10.3	11.4	11.2	11.1
Walker	31,760	32,380	32,820	33,160	33,450	33,080	33,410	32,880	32,630	33,300	32,910	33,020	33,440	33,350	33,330
	16.0	16.1	17.1	16.6	16.1	15.4	15.6	14.8	14.5	15.7	15.2	14.6	17.1	16.3	15.8
Washington	6,200	6,380	6,150	6,470	6,530	6,630	6,740	6,420	6,530	6,500	6,340	6,210	6,330	6,400	6,460
	16.9	20.0	23.8	22.1	21.9	21.4	22.6	18.6	17.5	16.4	15.8	15.7	17.8	18.1	18.0
Wilcox	6,380	5,860	6,460	6,270	6,090	5,720	5,560	5,500	5,590	5,680	5,490	5,320	5,340	5,380	5,230
	18.7	20.3	23.8	21.4	20.6	20.8	19.5	18.4	18.3	18.1	17.6	17.1	19.8	18.0	17.2
Winston	8,480	9,150	8,910	9,080	9,250	9,360	9,510	9,280	9,170	9,290	9,170	8,960	9,470	9,650	9,490
	22.5	18.6	22.2	18.8	17.3	16.9	17.3	16.1	14.8	15.3	16.2	16.5	21.4	25.8	20.0
TRADE															
Foreign, through Port of Mobile															
Imports															
Value ($1,000)	551,093	643,182	39,541	61,067	72,801	49,281	33,162	70,692	22,392	85,365	50,213	46,894	51,145	40,064	53,684
Shipping weight (1,000,000 lbs.)	8,142	6,268	308	641	740	353	343	819	430	826	757	423	583	508	232
Exports															
Value ($1,000)	1,222,158	788,611	68,576	81,973	80,503	71,696	51,007	33,212	51,981	64,610	61,993	64,282	69,760	19,449	46,631
Shipping weight (1,000,000 lbs.)	14,577	9,496	757	1,061	898	1,140	610	344	524	547	546	868	1,731	1,283	1,667
Shipments by water, Port of Mobile* (1,000 tons)	39,615	34,916	2,974	3,193	3,053	3,248	2,960	3,013	2,812	2,948	3,118	2,653	3,017	2,522	3,015
Domestic															
Electric energy consumption, non-industrial purposes (1,000,000 kWh)	20,680	23,017	1,668	1,650	1,490	1,678	2,149	2,671	2,547	1,798	1,588	1,884	2,494	2,093	1,793
Gasoline sales (1,000 gallons)	1,840,396	1,861,406	163,666	160,978	158,764	169,700	159,301	166,459	153,217	153,174	146,354	168,360			
New passenger car registrations (number)	100,717	122,395	9,326	9,544	11,620	10,660	11,039	10,012	11,288	10,378	10,295	11,761	10,451	11,116	11,081
Retail sales by kind of business, state totals ($1,000,000)															
Food	3,634		309	323	323	336	358	338	328						
General stores with food and gas	331		28	29	29	32	30	29	28						
General merchandise	2,292		192	204	171	163	190	198	194						
Apparel	499		46	45	44	42	41	47	47						
Furniture, furnishings, etc.	534		49	49	53	56	56	60	58						
Automotive	2,636		285	294	313	336	343	358	344						
Gasoline service stations	1,342		92	90	101	94	88	90	86						
Lumber and building materials	778		73	76	90	97	98	114	111						
Hardware and farm implements	351		34	34	39	42	41	42	42						
Eating places	1,112		101	99	104	104	110	111	107						
Drug stores	536		39	40	42	36	38	39	37						
All other retail	2,433		203	201	235	238	216	236	232						
Total sales by retail concerns	16,530		1,450	1,483	1,542	1,575	1,607	1,663	1,615						
Nonretail and unclassified concerns	4,749		392	357	394	403	377	392	415						
Total all sales at retail	21,279		1,842	1,841	1,936	1,978	1,985	2,056	2,030						
Retail sales, Metropolitan Statistical Areas and counties ($1,000)															
MSAs															
Anniston	432,037		37,660	37,700	39,448	42,513	49,304	51,054	48,924						
Birmingham	5,604,600		498,000	503,026	523,112	542,315	543,358	577,490	602,301						
Dothan			48,301	50,509	52,079	53,868	64,190	67,277	62,625						
Florence	571,705		44,376	47,505	48,245	50,479	63,605	65,598	63,784						
Gadsden	395,827		33,235	33,730	37,465	40,473	48,920	51,281	48,586						
Huntsville	1,064,650		75,670	75,539	85,289	91,227	108,278	114,261	111,714						
Mobile	2,131,301		178,187	172,423	186,646	195,871	233,943	240,731	217,431						
Montgomery	1,224,760		110,391	113,913	118,305	127,634	144,442	152,919	147,640						
Tuscaloosa	552,075		49,621	51,079	52,860	57,120	63,538	68,343	67,387						
Counties															
Autauga	107,927		9,694	9,681	10,388	10,986	9,939	9,677	9,116						
Baldwin	366,715		27,273	27,431	30,674	32,386	39,626	38,691	33,685						
Barbour	62,778		5,091	5,366	5,353	5,603	6,977	6,872	6,871						
Bibb	27,761		2,306	2,381	2,466	2,642	4,016	4,135	3,810						
Blount	80,384		6,802	6,399	7,016	7,639	8,335	8,767	3,797						
Bullock	59,766		2,347	2,873	2,666	2,769	3,030	2,739	2,915						
Butler	61,385		5,309	5,364	5,924	5,792	7,567	7,599	7,367						
Calhoun	432,037		37,560	37,700	39,448	42,513	49,304	51,054	48,924						
Chambers	91,694		8,411	8,178	8,585	8,776	11,567	11,279	11,337						
Cherokee	52,267		4,596	4,797	4,913	5,369	5,360	4,744	4,789						
Chilton	92,525		7,763	8,323	8,720	8,963	10,116	10,059	9,475						
Choctaw	50,700		4,143	3,753	3,852	3,623	4,210	4,121	3,941						
Clarke	89,267		7,822	8,464	8,501	8,621	10,543	10,059	8,945						
Clay	26,957		2,185	2,433	2,076	2,334	2,518	2,763	2,339						
Cleburne	24,342		2,407	2,568	2,589	2,67	2,633	2,492	2,577						
Coffee	142,602		13,642	13,968	15,283	15,128	18,081	18,176	17,887						

GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS FOR ALABAMA—CONTINUED

Type of Activity	Annual		1983										1984		
	1982	1983	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
TRADE—CONTINUED															
Retail sales, MSAs and counties—continued															
Counties—continued															
Gilbert	296,642		19,077	21,312	21,379	22,668	26,623	27,641	27,485						
Coosa	34,109		2,968	3,037	3,317	3,364	3,912	4,025	3,911						
Covington	20,855		1,438	1,315	1,551	1,553	1,528	1,654	1,500						
Crenshaw	140,600		12,194	13,203	13,898	14,070	15,396	16,540	15,128						
Cullman	32,470		2,837	3,214	3,370	3,430	3,263	3,237	3,072						
Dale	248,962		21,470	22,800	24,572	25,274	26,934	26,814	26,708						
Dallas	97,392		8,059	8,450	9,203	9,138	10,789	10,809	10,090						
DeKalb	188,352		14,649	15,999	17,506	17,583	20,057	21,239	19,629						
Elmore	171,845		12,382	13,231	14,017	15,364	17,373	17,434	16,975						
Escambia	82,262		6,853	7,370	7,784	7,758	10,676	10,428	9,817						
Etowah	133,511		12,191	12,100	12,990	13,067	14,431	15,013	13,897						
Fayette	195,827		33,235	33,730	37,465	40,473	48,920	51,281	44,586						
Franklin	85,349		7,627	7,436	7,809	8,057	7,172	7,453	7,199						
Geneva	88,064		7,618	8,320	8,811	9,024	11,022	10,532	10,287						
Greene	146,372		12,848	13,497	14,304	13,741	14,083	14,425	13,682						
Hale	35,115		2,988	3,142	3,330	3,649	4,212	3,965	4,090						
Henry	40,210		3,403	3,884	3,994	3,887	3,870	3,528	3,890						
Houston	430,944		40,242	42,059	42,876	44,750	53,391	56,468	52,535						
Jackson	147,971		12,836	12,510	13,826	14,506	16,639	16,577	16,068						
Jefferson	4,911,771		431,552	433,046	448,400	466,509	464,146	497,248	522,309						
Lamar	37,354		2,923	3,168	3,481	3,490	3,662	3,993	3,912						
Lauderdale	275,063		25,299	26,193	26,867	27,811	36,982	37,957	36,299						
Lawrence	64,612		4,982	5,384	5,767	6,220	7,017	7,036	6,692						
Lee	291,706		26,366	26,569	28,742	30,099	32,450	33,684	35,165						
Limestone	148,159		12,346	12,732	12,806	14,140	16,625	16,602	16,335						
Lowndes	23,153		1,793	1,997	2,128	1,871	2,232	1,766	1,870						
Macon	42,695		3,269	3,655	4,030	4,098	5,012	4,782	4,431						
Madison	859,741		76,670	75,539	85,289	91,227	108,278	114,261	111,714						
Marengo	87,042		6,959	7,434	6,553	6,554	7,458	7,137	6,791						
Marion	69,720		6,255	6,829	7,422	7,699	9,459	9,159	9,372						
Marshall	267,967		24,855	26,811	28,876	29,248	35,269	37,497	36,544						
Mobile	1,764,606		150,914	144,992	155,972	163,486	194,317	202,040	183,766						
Monroe	103,747		9,431	9,134	9,382	9,504	10,284	11,549	10,899						
Montgomery	1,034,571		93,844	96,862	100,133	108,890	123,828	132,814	128,707						
Morgan	476,700		46,673	46,763	51,232	47,009	51,449	55,483	54,513						
Perry	28,382		2,163	2,398	2,503	2,392	2,568	2,541	2,863						
Pickens	51,737		4,006	4,724	5,122	4,766	4,985	4,943	4,439						
Pike	83,838		7,689	8,420	9,436	8,411	9,542	10,582	9,512						
Randolph	64,926		5,396	5,139	5,399	5,249	5,740	5,756	6,158						
Russell	95,486		8,713	9,176	9,850	9,871	11,376	12,346	11,142						
St. Clair	105,453		10,908	12,113	13,225	13,874	15,143	14,439	14,077						
Shelby	261,472		23,908	25,959	27,540	28,824	26,130	27,337	27,242						
Sumter	34,465		2,844	2,851	2,920	3,004	3,213	3,356	3,143						
Talladega	219,173		19,138	19,300	22,703	21,401	25,541	25,019	24,383						
Tallapoosa	122,749		11,180	12,046	12,721	12,832	14,060	13,709	13,783						
Tuscaloosa	552,075		49,621	51,079	52,860	57,120	63,538	68,343	67,367						
Walker	286,965		24,830	25,490	26,931	25,469	29,604	29,709	29,876						
Washington	29,920		2,691	2,253	2,422	2,302	2,584	2,347	2,352						
Wilcox	35,627		3,121	3,083	3,145	3,134	3,448	3,496	3,324						
Winston	64,854		5,502	5,464	6,102	6,664	7,329	7,926	7,166						
Statewide	4,185,970		353,006	325,161	332,174	315,325	145,084	136,259	149,200						
BUILDING ACTIVITY															
Alabama total:															
Building permits ($1,000)															
Total	712,696	1,079,085	84,232	72,068	108,222	72,677	93,959	120,559	96,165	86,676	162,881	76,549	65,449	75,497	99,328
Residential	237,082	449,881	43,724	40,009	47,803	32,006	39,580	47,066	34,835	43,819	42,063	27,533	24,927	38,376	39,447
Nonresidential	300,343	366,127	20,153	17,120	34,301	20,565	26,714	35,834	29,816	19,695	95,659	33,868	22,711	21,524	32,351
In selected cities															
Anniston:															
Building permits ($1,000)															
Total	5,965	8,848	674	791	850	905	826	895	794	818	718	693	595	644	760
Residential	2,700	3,593	417	312	341	348	306	309	253	268	261	231	247	255	317
Nonresidential	442	932		112	96	112	92	124	106	109	101	81	75	93	126
Birmingham:															
Building permits ($1,000)															
Total	109,048	213,343	11,394	5,671	23,569	8,012	7,729	14,059	30,767	9,844	83,104	6,605	5,689	4,413	8,945
Residential	13,918	31,921	7,607	977	9,643	1,221	1,378	1,317	2,529	4,275	904	885	1,100	1,574	2,100
Nonresidential	61,839	108,370	1,580	1,098	2,177	1,911	1,855	7,416	12,498	767	70,397	526	985	530	1,071
Decatur:															
Building permits ($1,000)															
Total	8,551	14,095	1,129	1,073	1,154	1,235	1,167	1,367	1,424	1,278	1,004	789	912	1,111	1,075
Residential	2,937	7,340	307	713	722	770	741	918	995	862	663	267	673	845	739
Nonresidential	3,812	2,156	603	123	163	177	150	155	156	140	116	32	73	81	115
Dothan:															
Building permits ($1,000)															
Total	28,821	18,943	2,162	899	695	1,073	1,388	1,340	700	3,402	2,191	2,952	1,075	1,064	1,568
Residential	5,626	7,760	884	568	326	475	350	366	318	2,412	805	351	444	631	685
Nonresidential	9,720	6,339	973	230	59	176	468	319	40	367	1,127	2,146	457	100	452
Gadsden:															
Building permits ($1,000)															
Total	10,429	13,596	981	395	1,351	529	4,695	354	549	550	1,389	1,189	616	530	214
Residential	1,517	2,006	271	41	273	198	170	282	224	329	75	61	110	57	92
Nonresidential	3,271	3,912	53	2	378	271	161	2	271	201	1,283	1,104	24	452	102
Huntsville:															
Building permits ($1,000)															
Total	58,302	122,759	6,213	5,583	15,688	10,766	12,423	17,391	8,823	20,634	9,742	6,919	6,115	16,817	12,836
Residential	18,311	51,350	3,240	1,935	4,390	3,263	9,556	7,145	2,171	10,578	1,598	1,939	2,203	7,732	4,874
Nonresidential	14,238	45,128	1,874	1,766	10,098	5,693	669	6,403	5,166	3,320	5,238	3,609	2,270	5,358	7,169
Mobile:															
Building permits ($1,000)															
Total	83,675	109,508	9,046	8,756	14,828	3,923	14,352	13,411	5,161	6,093	8,760	10,475	3,718	5,366	17,060
Residential	19,544	38,261	2,489	6,816	4,337	1,334	1,132	1,810	1,127	990	1,586	7,313	984	1,470	1,424
Nonresidential	43,701	49,663	3,737	473	9,054	664	11,007	10,337	1,465	2,188	5,173	2,058	1,419	2,488	4,160

GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS FOR ALABAMA—CONTINUED

Type of Activity	Annual		1983										1984		
	1982	1983	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
BUILDING ACTIVITY—CONTINUED															
Montgomery															
Building permits ($1,000):															
Total	52,352	76,984	7,692	10,648	7,877	6,777	6,275	6,829	6,315	6,326	5,764	5,127	14,164	5,100	6,477
Residential	15,363	32,619	4,125	4,797	3,407	2,568	2,473	2,354	2,081	2,108	2,278	1,874	2,436	2,131	2,462
Nonresidential	22,178	28,264	1,940	5,301	3,265	2,542	2,205	2,762	2,652	2,596	2,170	1,856	9,934	1,882	2,727
Quad-Cities															
Building permits ($1,000):															
Total	18,563	12,978	977	718	1,247	1,244	1,612	1,361	1,250	852	1,360	699	2,642	1,410	4,666
Residential	7,481	6,391	711	341	451	640	473	513	623	426	874	166	480	754	1,298
Nonresidential	5,722	3,506	45	246	176	261	737	705	380	337	123	100	207	585	3,031
Selma															
Building permits ($1,000):															
Total	2,737	4,197	105	184	635	115	336	103	901	67	98	356	1,826	213	219
Residential	997	357	25	63	125	30		20			65	20			24
Nonresidential	1,739	798	22	19	384	10	275	20	18	30	1		3	133	36
Tuscaloosa															
Building permits ($1,000):															
Total	21,418	30,159	3,672	1,458	3,023	1,600	2,862	3,340	3,777	1,814	1,809	613	1,505	2,647	3,328
Residential	6,592	14,849	2,697	850	1,674	1,205	2,338	1,194	1,378	396	717	407	1,032	1,163	2,097
Nonresidential	8,408	6,227	84	187	424	569	187	1,221	711	527	599	3	132	929	573

NOTE: Throughout this table, details do not necessarily add to totals due to rounding. — Estimated total for calendar month based on adjustment of weekly data. — Individual months may not add to annual totals due to late revisions in annual data. — These data may not be reused in any manner without the express permission of F. W. Dodge Div., McGraw-Hill Information Co. — End-of-month balance. — Beginning January 1978, the Consumer Price Index consists of "All Urban Consumers." Prior to that date, it included only "Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers." Historical data will not be available due to the change in coverage. No "Energy" data are available prior to 1978, and "Housing" data prior to January 1978 are not comparable to the new "Housing" series due to a change in definition. — These data were previously presented as the "Wholesale Price Index." The new title more accurately reflects the coverage of the data. — Civilian labor force, unemployment, and total employment are adjusted by place of residence, and total nonagricultural employment and its components are by place of work. All monthly data are adjusted to a March benchmark of the previous year. — Includes both inbound and outbound shipments by water moving through private facilities as well as through the Alabama State Docks; excludes tonnage for military installations. — Excludes sales to federal government. — These data may not be reused in any manner without the express permission of R. L. Polk and Company. — Retail sales data represent sales at retail as reported to the Alabama Department of Revenue under the definition of the Alabama Sales Tax Law. Total sales figures include sales at retail by wholesalers and other nonretail firms as well as retail concerns. Sales at retail thus defined should not be confused with all sales (including nonretail sales) by retail concerns as reported in the *Census of Retail Trade*. **Monthly sales figures are preliminary and subject to revision on a continuing basis. Sales figure for the two latest months are normally low because they do not yet include data from late reporters. Retail sales historical data prior to 1977 are not available for the new series. Birmingham and Huntsville MSA sales data after June 1983 are not directly comparable with earlier data because county designations were changed. The "Statewide" category in the "County" section provides sales figures which are not attributable to individual counties; it does not represent a state total.** — Private construction only. May be partially estimated by the Bureau of the Census; the sum of monthly figures may not equal annual total. — Total construction includes additions and alterations; therefore, is not a sum of residential plus nonresidential. — Quad-Cities area consists of Florence, Muscle Shoals, Sheffield, and Tuscumbia.

Poverty and Age

(Continued from pg. 2)

This column has centered on the combined conditions of age and poverty in Alabama. There are some bleak statistics involved -- especially if we consider joining that group. But all older Alabamians are not in poverty. In fact, nearly 1,200 families headed by persons aged 65 and over reported family income in excess of $75,000. The median income for families with householder aged 65 and over was $9,008. Even so, far too many of our citizens can look forward to advanced years, poor health, and being alone, and poor. Since we all are candidates for that group, shouldn't we pay attention?

Additional Depository Libraries

One federal depository library in Alabama was not listed in the June issue. Additionally, the state's four Census depository libraries were omitted from the listing.

The Alabama Supreme Court and State Law Library in Montgomery serves as a selective depository library. The state's Census depository libraries include: the Public Library of Anniston and Calhoun County, Anniston; the George S. Houston Memorial Library, Dothan; Carmichael Library, University of Montevallo, Montevallo; and the Business Library, University of Alabama, University.

alabama business

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A Profile of Madison County

Madison County, located at the top of Alabama bordering Tennessee, is the center of the Tennessee Valley area's economic activity. Its largest city, Huntsville, is known nationally for its contributions to the space program and to related research projects. In Huntsville, Redstone Arsenal and the George C. Marshall Space Flight Center have attracted privately owned support contractors, aerospace contractors, and other private agencies with high technology offerings that have stimulated the city's growth.

The 1980 Madison County population was 196,966; 78 percent of which was urban. The 1980 population represents a 5.6 percent increase over the 1970 figures. This is a substantial departure from the 1960-70 growth rate of 59 percent, which was spurred by the establishment of the Marshall Space Flight Center by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration in 1960. The 1980 land area for Madison County was 806 square miles for a population density of 244.4. Based on its 1980 population, Madison County ranks 222 among counties in the United States.

The demographic composition of the county is white, 155,087; black, 38,999; and other 2,880. Males numbered 96,232; females, 100,734.

The city of Huntsville had a 1980 population of 142,513 for a slight increase over the 1970 count of 139,282. Huntsville's 1980 population places it no. 111 among cities in the United States and fourth in Alabama. The Huntsville land area is 113.5 square miles for a population density of 1,256.0.

Total personal income in Madison County in 1981 was $1,972 million. Per capita personal income in 1981 was $10,056; and in 1977, $6,618. Comparatively, 1981 Alabama per capita personal income was $8,217; 1977, $5,568. Only Jefferson ($10,303) and Montgomery ($10,097) counties registered higher 1981 per capita personal income levels.

Earnings by place of work in Madison County in 1981 were $1,698 million. The nonfarm sector accounted for 98.75 percent of all earnings in 1981. Within nonfarm, the private sector contributed 62.6 percent and government 37.4 percent. This private public breakdown differs considerably from the state figures of 79 percent private and 21 percent public.

Madison County 1981 total wage and salary employment was 98,254. Nonfarm employment numbered 98.8 percent of those employed in 1981. The private sector comprised 66.9 percent of the nonfarm; public, 33.1 percent. Within the private component the following sectors represented the major shares: manufacturing (35.8 percent), services (27.5 percent), and retail (19.3 percent).

Annual average labor force estimates for 1983 show Madison County with a civilian labor force of 100,410, with the number of unemployed at 9,210 for an unemployment rate of 9.2. This rate compares very favorably to the Alabama rate of 13.7. The Madison County rate appears more consistent with the national rate of 9.6 than with the state average. Madison County had the lowest unemployment rate of any of the major counties (based on civilian labor force). Of these counties, the rate for Jefferson was 12.8; Mobile, 15.9; Montgomery, 10.6; and Tuscaloosa, 12.5. Of all Alabama counties, only Lee County had an unemployment rate (8.4) lower than Madison; and only two other Alabama counties had rates below 10 percent in 1983 (Lamar and Chambers, both 9.8).

According to *County Business Patterns*, there was a total of 3,484 establishments in Madison County in 1981. The largest number of establishments (1,790) employed between 1-4 people. Ninety-five percent of all establishments fell into a larger grouping of 1-49 employees. Only four establishments employed 1,000 or more workers. The largest number of establishments was found in services (1,146) followed by retail (970) and wholesale (306) trade. The largest number of employees was in manufacturing (22,110) with services (13,703) second.

Total all sales at retail (in thousands) for Madison County was 1980, $778,091; 1981, $838,433; and 1982, $859,741.

Madison County has three major institutions of high learning: The University of Alabama in Huntsville with an enrollment of approximately 6,000; Alabama A & M with an enrollment of 3,900; and Oakwood College (privately owned) with an enrollment of 1,300.

The 1980 Census reported that 31.5 percent of persons 25 years and over had completed 4 years of high school in Madison County. In addition, 17.2 percent had completed 1-3 years of college and 21.4 percent had completed 4 or more years of college. This positive educational attainment is especially significant in light of the recent Alexander Grant Business Climate study, which listed as one of Alabama's negative attributes the low percentage of the population who have completed high school. This statistic is believed indicative of the level of a trainable work force.

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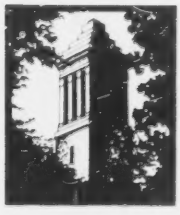

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